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PAGE 01 STATE 357483

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EX01S

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADS

TAGS: SCSA, ENRG, TRGY, KNNP, PARM, TW

SUBJECT: TAIWAN RESEARCH REACTOR (TRR) CONVERSION

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE FIRST PHASE OF USG EFFORTS TO REMOVE SPENT TRR  
FUEL FROM TAIWAN IS UNDERTAKEN. (THIS PHASE ENTAILS  
REMOVAL OF CANADIAN ORIGIN FUEL RODS.) THE SECOND  
SHIPMENT OF TRR SPENT FUEL ELEMENTS OF CANADIAN ORIGIN IS  
ON ITS WAY TO THE U.S. [REDACTED]

DURING OCTOBER 1986

TAIWAN TRANSFERRED TO THE U.S. DOLLARS 12.0 MILLION  
TOWARDS THE ESTIMATED COST OF SHIPPING 1,380 ADDITIONAL  
SPENT FUEL RODS ABOVE THE 475 OF CANADIAN ORIGIN. THIS  
SHOULD ALLOW UNINTERRUPTED SHIPMENT OF THIS SPENT FUEL TO  
TAKE PLACE, ASSUMING ISSUES RELATED TO LAWSUITS FILED IN  
THE U.S. TO PROHIBIT THE ENTRY OF THE SPENT FUEL INTO  
U.S. PORTS PENDING RESOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND  
PROCEDURAL CONCERNs ARE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED.

3. BY MID-1989, AFTER A TOTAL OF ABOUT 1,600 RODS SHOULD  
HAVE BEEN REMOVED, AN "EQUILIBRIUM" STATE WILL HAVE BEEN  
REACHED WHERE THE NUMBER OF SPENT FUEL RODS REMAINING ON  
TAIWAN WILL HAVE BEEN MINIMIZED AT ABOUT ONE AND ONE-HALF  
YEARS DISCHARGE. IT HAS BEEN PLANNED SINCE THE SHIPMENT  
PROJECT BEGAN THAT, IN ADDITION TO SENDING SPENT TRR FUEL  
TO U.S., THE REACTOR CORE WOULD BE "CONVERTED" TO A  
DIFFERENT FUEL MIXTURE FROM A CORE OF ONLY NATURAL  
URANIUM METAL FUEL TO A MIXTURE OF URANIUM METAL AND LOW  
FATTED URANIUM DIOXIDE.

PAGE 01 STATE 357483

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
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1986 Subject and  
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